

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for session-return to a web application that is served from an application server, the method comprising:
 - creating a first instance of a session of the web application upon receipt at the application server of a first start uniform resource locator (URL), the first start URL comprising an external session identifier (ESID) that identifies the session of the web application, the first instance being created without preexisting state information if a previous session return state corresponding to the external session identifier has not been previously stored in a session memory of the application server, the ESID being originally generated by a client machine;
 - providing the first instance to a user via a portal page in a browser on the client machine;
 - receiving, at the application server, a termination URL indicating that the user has navigated away from the first instance of the session, the termination URL including the ESID and being sent from the browser upon the user navigating away;
 - storing a session return state in the session memory of the application server after termination of the first instance of the session, the session return state comprising a record of a user's activity in the application during the first instance prior to receipt of the termination URL at the application server; the session return state being associated with the ESID which is also stored in the session memory;
 - releasing, by the server, all resources associated with the first instance of the session;
 - receiving, at the server, a request from the client for a new instance of the session of the web application, and determining if the request includes the ESID; and

if the request includes the ESID, reading the session return state from the session memory and creating the new instance of the session by restoring the session to duplicate the first instance as of receipt of the termination URL at the application server.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving the ESID from a portal used by the client.
4. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving the start URL comprising the ESID.
5. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising receiving a new request including the ESID each time a new web application session is started at the client machine.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising, if the identifier does not correspond to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving a second new instance of the web application session in a startup mode.
8. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising minimizing the state related to the terminated web application.
9. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising storing the ESID in a table in the session memory.

10. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 9, further comprising determining whether the request includes the ESID by mapping the ESID to one or more stored ESIDs in the table.

11. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein the ESID is generated by a session manager of the portal.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for session-return to enable a stateful web application, comprising:

receiving at an application server, a request from a client for a new web application session, the request comprising an external session identifier (ESID) that identifies the session of the web application, the ESID being originally generated by the client;

determining whether the ESID was previously stored in a session memory at the application server to identify a previously terminated web application session and to be associated with a session return state stored in the session memory, the session return state comprising a record of a user's activity in the previously terminated web application prior to navigation of the user away from the previously terminated web application and sending of a termination URL including the ESID from the client to the application server;

if the ESID is stored in the session memory with the associated session return state of the previously terminated web application session, reading the session return state from the session memory and creating a new instance of previously terminated web application session by serving the new web application session according to the session return state and thereby duplicating the previously terminated web application session; and

if the identifier does not correspond to the ESID of the terminated web application session, serving the new web application session in a startup mode.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising receiving the termination uniform resource locator (URL) from the client when the user navigates away from the previously terminated web application session.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein determining whether the ESID was previously stored further includes mapping the identifier to one or more stored ESIDs stored in the table.

17. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the request includes a start URL.

18. (Previously Presented) A system for performing page-back of a web application, comprising:

a portal that is implemented on a client machine and that generates, upon navigation by a user away from a current web application session in a browser on the client machine, an external session identifier (ESID) related to the current web application session, the portal further sending the ESID to an application server as part of a termination URL, wherein the client machine originally generated the ESID; and

a server platform hosting the application server and comprising a session memory that stores a session return state associated with the ESID, the server comprising a mapping module that maps a request for a new web application session comprising a new ESID originally generated by the client machine, to one or more stored ESIDs in the session memory, the server platform serving the

new web application session in the state associated with the new ESID if the new ESID is among the stored ESIDs.

19. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the server is a web application server.

20. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 18, wherein the portal further comprises a session manager that generates the ESID.

21. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the first start uniform resource locator (URL) is received from the web browser at the client machine and wherein the ESID is generated by the web browser at the client machine.

22. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 21, further comprising:
creating a restored instance of a second session of the web application upon receipt at the application server of a second start uniform resource locator (URL) from the client machine, the second start URL comprising a second external session identifier (ESID) that identifies the second session of the web application, the second start URL being received before the termination URL;
providing the restored instance of the second session to the user in the browser on the client machine such that the first instance of the session and restored instance of the second session are provided concurrently, the new instance being associated with the second ESID and being created by reading a second session return state from the session memory to create the restored instance of the second session by restoring an earlier instance of the second session that was stored after receipt of a second session termination URL from the client machine at the application server upon termination of the earlier instance of the second session.

23. (New) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the external session identifier further comprises a window identifier.

24. (New) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein the external session identifier identifying the first session of the web application further comprises a first window identifier and the second external session identifier identifying the second session of the web application further comprises a second window identifier.